

**MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.**  
**United States Patent Application**  
**DECLARATION**

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and a joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled SLIDER SCALE PACKAGE FOR MAGNETIC RECORDING HEADS, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

- a. ☒ no such applications have been filed.  
 b. ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)
60/111,307	7 December 1998

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name SLUZEWSKI	First Given Name DAVID	Second Given Name ALLEN
0	Residence & Citizenship	City EDINA	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
1	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 6712 RIDGEVIEW DRIVE	City EDINA	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55439/USA
Signature of Inventor 201: x <i>David Allen Sluzewski</i>			Date: x 12/6/99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name QUALEY	First Given Name DAVID	Second Given Name GORDON
0	Residence & Citizenship	City APPLE VALLEY	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
2	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 13081 FINCH WAY	City APPLE VALLEY	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55124/USA
Signature of Inventor 202: x <i>David Gordon Qualey</i>			Date: x 12/6/99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name SCHULZ	First Given Name KEVIN	Second Given Name JON
0	Residence & Citizenship	City APPLE VALLEY	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
2	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 13567 GOSSAMER WAY	City APPLE VALLEY	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55124/USA
Signature of Inventor 203: x <i>Kevin Jon Schulz</i>			Date: x 12/6/99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name JONES	First Given Name GORDON	Second Given Name MERLE
0	Residence & Citizenship	City EAGAN	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
2	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 1393 CAMELBACK DRIVE	City EAGAN	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55123/USA
Signature of Inventor 204: x <i>Gordon M Jones</i>			Date: x 12/6/99	

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- or
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;
  - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
    - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
    - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
  - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

S/N NEW FILING

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SLUZEWSKI ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Serial No.: NEW FILING Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN  
Filed: HEREWITH Docket No.: SEA8994/M&G 30874.87USU1  
Title: SLIDER SCALE PACKAGE FOR MAGNETIC RECORDING HEADS

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned hereby appoints:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481	Kowalchuk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946
Anzures, Gregory M.	Reg. No. 42,264	Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Illepa, Mara B.	Reg. No. 40,066
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Berra, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Bleck, Bruce E.	Reg. No. 41,623	Malnyro, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. P-44,921
Bruest, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Pauty, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 33,939	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Caspera, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,237	Plunkett, Theodore	Reg. No. 37,209
Chispena, James R.	Reg. No. 39,634	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 41,512
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Cochran, William W.	Reg. No. 26,652	Reiland, Carl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 35,968	Schmalz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,628
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Dalglish, Leslie B.	Reg. No. 40,579	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Seall, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,127
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Sobald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Stoag, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Soderberg, Richard	Reg. No. P-43,352
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,607	Strer, Shelby D.	Reg. No. P-45,135
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Summers, John S.	Reg. No. 24,216
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. P-45,147
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Telleksen, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Trenbath, Jan R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Grosans, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Hamra, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Hillston, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,438	Weaver, Kattie O.	Reg. No. 43,245
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Wehr, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 43,261
Kodievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,106	Wickham, J. Scott	Reg. No. 41,376
Kustell, Joseph M.	Reg. No. 37,160	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,034
Kutcherger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Witz, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
Keys, Jerome J.	Reg. No. 42,724	Xu, Min S.	Reg. No. 39,536
Kneari, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Zandi, Anthony R.	Reg. No. P-45,255
Kowalchuk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535		

as attorneys and/or patent agents with the full power to represent the applicant in connection with this application.

In addition, the undersigned appoints Edward P. Heller, III, Reg. No. 29,075, Shawn B. Dempster, Reg. No. 34,321, and Jonathan E. Olson, Reg. No. 41,231, of Seagate Technology,

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Inc., as attorneys and/or patent agents with the full power to represent the applicant in connection with this application.

Send all correspondence to Min S. Xu, Merchant & Gould P.C., 3100 Norwest Center, 90 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131, and direct all telephone calls to Min S. Xu at (612) 336-4733.

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Date: December 7, 1999

By: Edward P. Heller, III  
Edward P. Heller, III, Patent Counsel

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